

South Wales, Tom Mann preached Syndicalism, neat but in *The New Age*, A R Orage, A J Penty in the earlier phase, G D H Cole and W Mellor in the later, gave it a romantic gloss of Medievalism and William Morris. Actually, the text books on Gild ideas, together with the lion's share of organising \hat was at one stage a quite impressive movement, belong to G D H Cole. He, after an unsuccessful effort, from a position on its Executive, to convert the Fabian Society resigned his membership in 1915, to found his National Gilds League. Owing to his drive and energy, the close connexion he established with the Engineers, and the circumstances of the war itself, notably in Munitions establishments, the National Gilds League was, for a stage, a factor in industrial life of genuine importance. Its underlying ideas, as set out by him in *The World of Labour* (published in 1913) and in other subsequent books, represent a thorough-going attack on the whole Webb position. The frontispiece to *The World of Labour*, drawn by Will Dyson, sho\vs the hapless and emaciated form of British Labour extended on the operating table, with Sidney and Beatrice preparing to make the vital incision, while MacDonald, in a graceful, languid pose, leans over the end of the table as anaesthetist, the chloroform he is administering being drawn from St Stephen's Behind. the Webbs are Sydney Olivier, E R Pease, Will Crooks, Lloyd George, Masterman and Sno\lden round the arena, in the middle distance, are Hyndman and G B Shaw in one

group, Belloc, G K Chesterton and George
Lansbury **in**
another In his opening chapter, Mr Cole draws
a distinction between the British and Continental Labour
movements,
gravely to the disadvantage of the former

"It is the most striking contrast between the
British and the
Continental Labour movements that here the
intellectuals seem
to have so little influence as to be almost
negligible

In
reality, we have been saved from important
divergencies within